

SPIDER-MAN

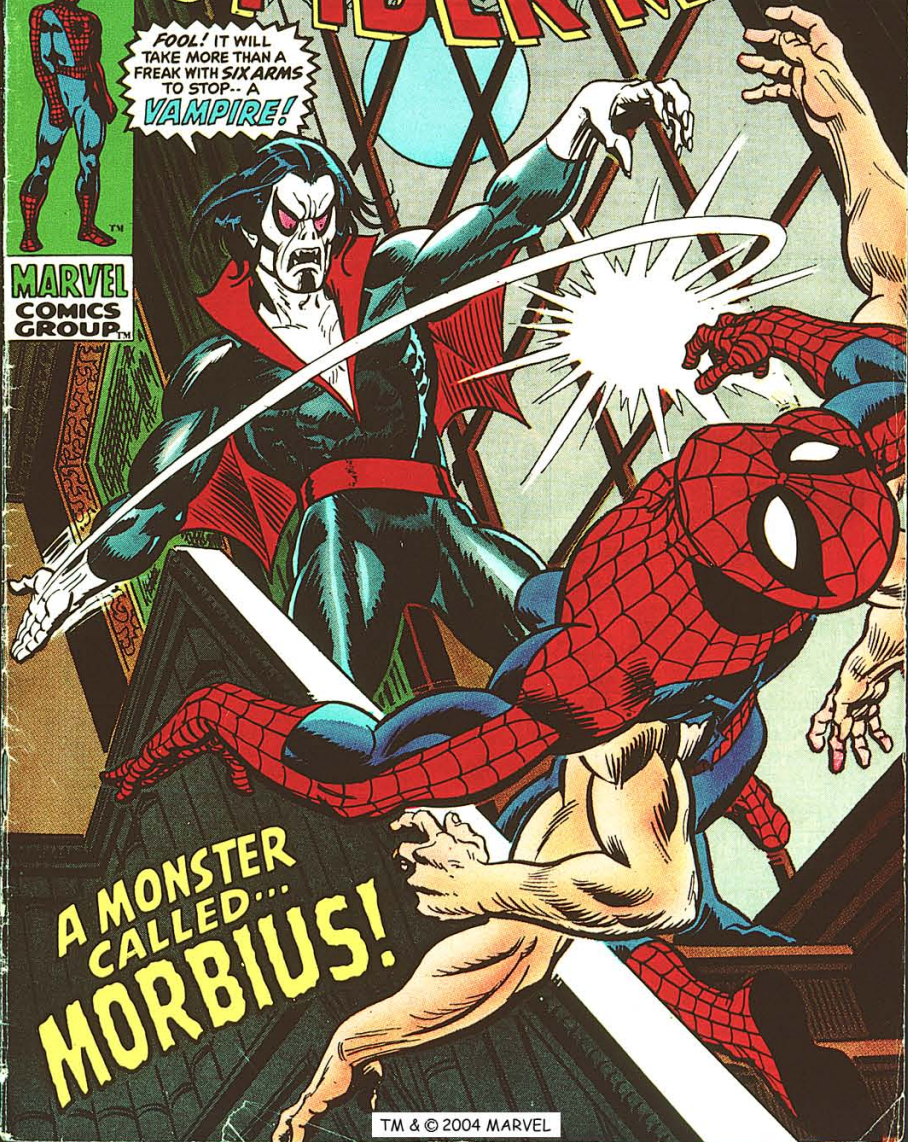
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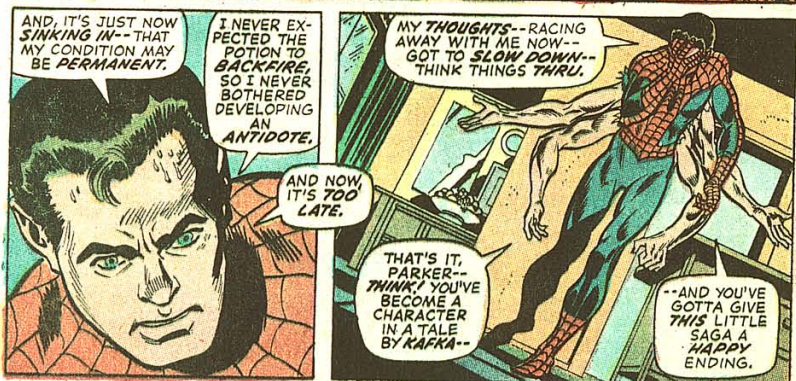
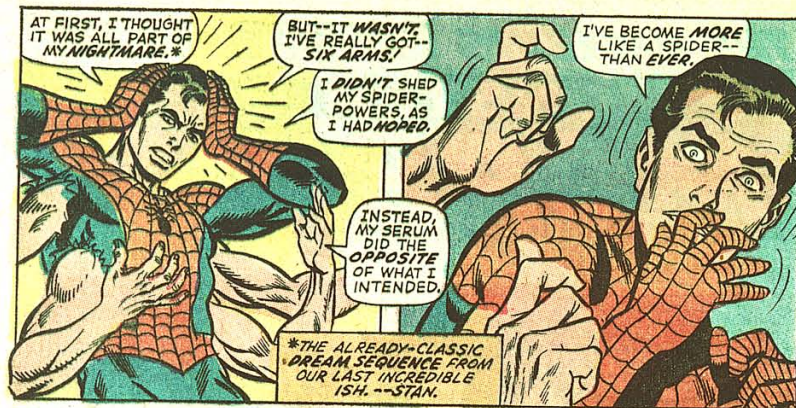
FOOL! IT WILL
TAKE MORE THAN A
FREAK WITH SIX ARMS
TO STOP... A
VAMPIRE!



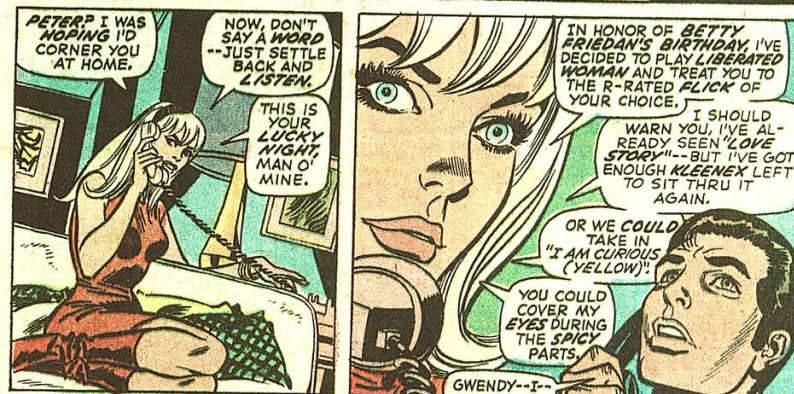
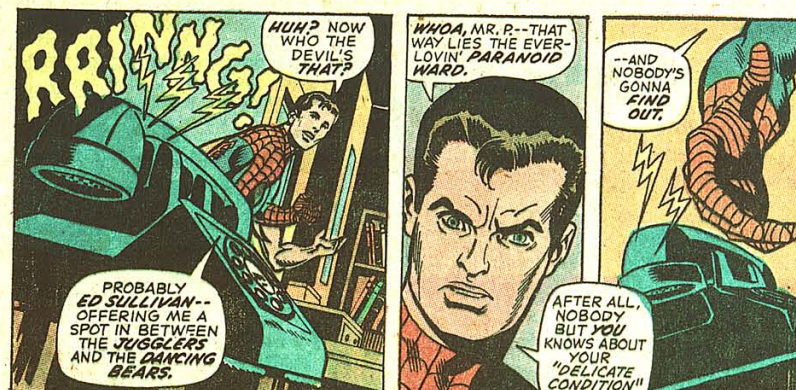
A MONSTER
CALLED...
MORBIUS!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

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2



3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

OUT COLD!



THE DAY THOSE BOXES FELL ON ME AT WORK, I DIDN'T EVEN SEE WHAT HIT ME!

2 BUT WHEN I WOKE UP IN THE INFIRMARY... I BEGAN TO SEE THE LIGHT... FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE.



NANCY, I'M BOXED IN... IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!

3 THERE'S NO FUTURE FOR ME IN THAT JOB... AND THERE WON'T BE ANY FUTURE UNTIL I GET MY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA! I'M STILL OUT COLD!



4 NANCY, I'M GOING TO FILL OUT THE COUPON IN THIS MAGAZINE AND FIND OUT ABOUT GETTING MY DIPLOMA AT ICS!



HONEY, THAT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!



5 WELL, I DID IT... LEARNED AT ICS, ON MY OWN TIME, GRADUATED WHEN I WAS READY, DIDN'T COST MUCH OR TAKE VERY LONG.

6 AND I GOT THE DIPLOMA BUSINESS-MEN RESPECT... ONE FROM ICS!



JACK, I'M PROUD OF YOU!

7 THAT ICS DIPLOMA GOT ME THIS JOB IN THE OFFICE... THE PAY'S TWICE AS GOOD, AND THE FUTURE TEN TIMES AS BRIGHT!



8 YOU KNOW THEY SAY A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA IS WORTH \$80,000 OVER A LIFETIME, AND IT'S GREAT TO HAVE EVERYBODY'S RESPECT! ICS OPENED MY EYES!



COULD YOU SIGN THIS FOR ME, MR. LEWIS... IT NEEDS YOUR APPROVAL.

ICS International Correspondence Schools ICS, Scranton, Pa. 18515
Division of Intext

MAIL TO ICS, SCRANTON, PENNA. 18515

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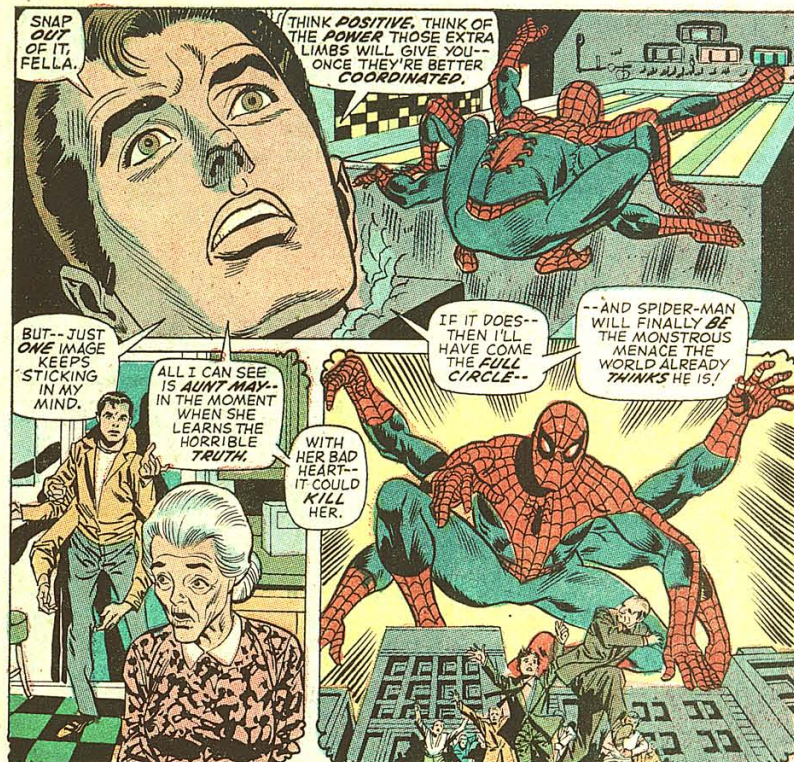
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SNAP OUT OF IT, FELLA.

THINK POSITIVE. THINK OF THE POWER THOSE EXTRA LIMBS WILL GIVE YOU-- ONCE THEY'RE BETTER COORDINATED.

BUT-- JUST ONE IMAGE KEEPS STICKING IN MY MIND.

ALL I CAN SEE IS AUNT MAY-- IN THE MOMENT WHEN SHE LEARNS THE HORRIBLE TRUTH.

WITH HER BAD HEART-- IT COULD KILL HER.

IF IT DOES-- THEN I'LL HAVE COME THE FULL CIRCLE--

--AND SPIDER-MAN WILL FINALLY BE THE MONSTROUS MENACE THE WORLD ALREADY THINKS HE IS!

S'FUNNY... IN POP FICTION, THE MASKED HERO'S ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A GIMMICK THAT'LL "STRIKE TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF EVIL-DOERS."

THE SHADOW... BATMAN... THERE WAS EVEN A GUY CALLED THE SPIDER, ONCE.

AND, THE ONLY PERSON YOU'LL SCARE MORE THAN THE CROOKS--

NOW WHAT? WHY DIDN'T I SELL TICKETS?

COOL IT, SPIDEY. MAYBE THAT ISN'T SOMEBODY ELSE YOU CARE FOR-- AND HAVE TO TELL TO KISS OFF.



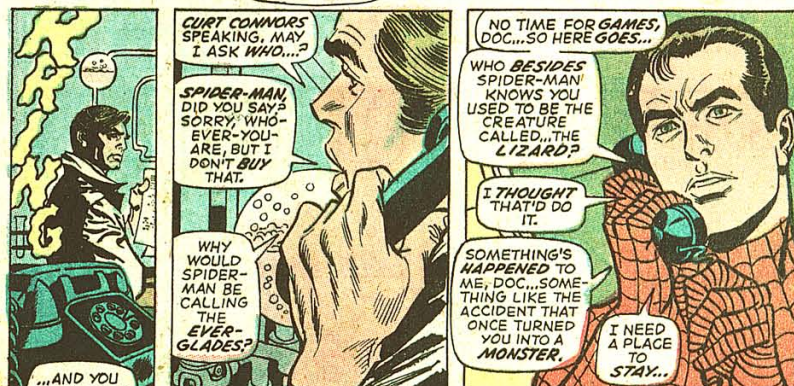
WELL, CHEER UP, WEB-SPINNER. YOU GOT 'EM ALL BEAT.



--WILL BE YOURSELF --LIKE, EVERY TIME YOU LOOK IN A MIRROR.



MAYBE IT'S JUST A NICE, WHOLESOME OBSCENE PHONE-CALL.



TM & © 2004 MARVEL



COULDN'T TRUST MYSELF... TO TALK ANY LONGER.

I DON'T WANT ANYBODY TO KNOW... WHAT I'VE BECOME.

NOT ANYBODY, EVER!



WELL... GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET ON THE STICK.



NOT MUCH TO PACK. GOOD THING I WAS ALWAYS TOO BROKE TO BE A FASHION-PLATE.

AND THUS, PETER PARKER LEAVES FOR EXOTIC LONG ISLAND... OR DOES HE?

THINK, MAN. USE THAT FINE, ANALYTICAL MIND THAT GOT YOU INTO THIS MESS.

SO LONG, SWINGIN' BACHELOR PAD. WHEN MY ROOMIE GETS HOME, TELL HIM I'M SORRY I LEFT SUCH A CLUTTER.

WHO KNOWS... MAYBE I'LL BE BACK SOON TO GIVE HIM A HAND...

AH, SPIDEY... YOU'D BE NOTHIN' WITHOUT YOUR SENSU-HUMOR.

...AND A HAND... AND A HAND...



AND THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU ARE... NOTHIN'!



CAB RIDE... TRAIN RIDE... LUGGING HEAVY SUITCASES, ONE STRAY BREEZE, FLAPPIN' MY COAT OPEN...

...AND IT'S GOOD-BYE, SECRET IDENTITY.

SO, SINCE I CAN'T CARRY A PHONE BOOTH AROUND ON MY BACK...

...LOOKS LIKE IT'D BETTER BE SPIDER-MAN WHO MAKES HIS LONG ISLAND DEBUT.



HUH?

NOW WHAT IN--?



SMEK!



-WHEW! LUCKY I'M NOT A WALL-CRAWLER IN NAME ONLY.

STILL, I WONDER WHAT MADE ME LOSE MY--



WISE UP, WEBHEAD. HOW MANY TIMES DOES A WALL HAVE TO FALL ON YOU?

IT'S THESE EXTRA ARMS OF YOURS, FLAILING AROUND LIKE CRAZY.

THEY'RE FOULING UP YOUR TIMING, SOMETHING FIERCE.



WELL, GET USED TO 'EM, KID.

THEY MIGHT JUST BE AROUND FOR A LONG, LONG WHILE.



I GUESS--I SHOULD HAVE PRACTICED WITH ALL SIX ARMS-- BEFORE I MADE LIKE KA-ZAR.

BUT, MY SPIRO AGNEW WRIST WATCH TELLS ME IT'S NEARLY DAWN...

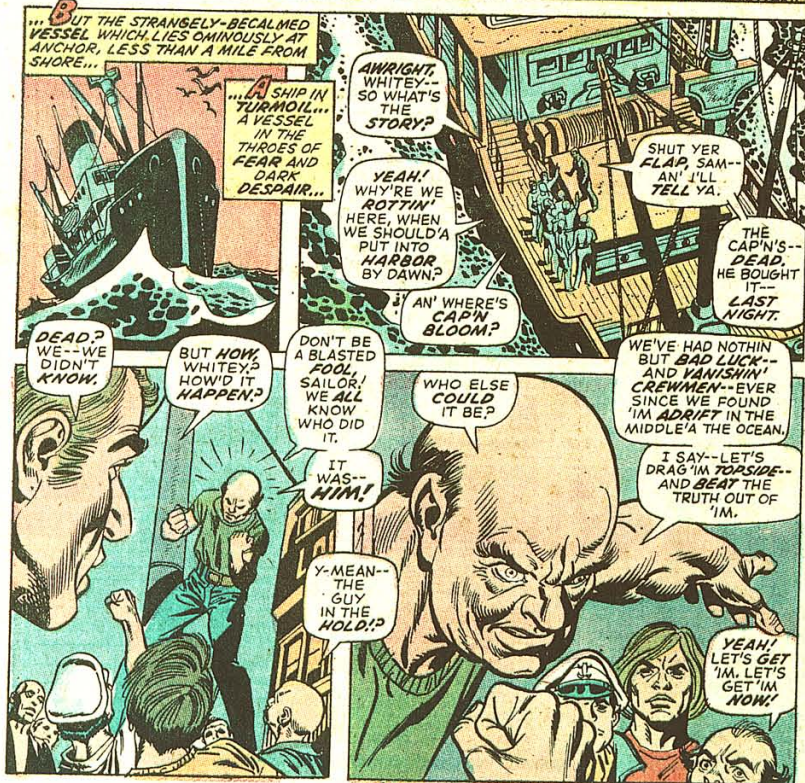
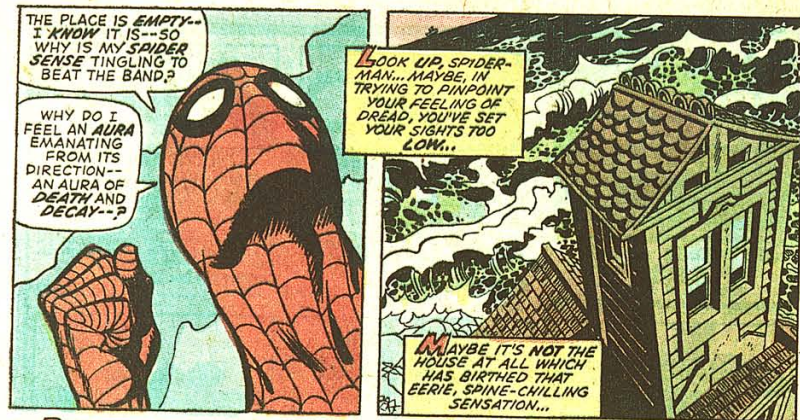


THWIP!

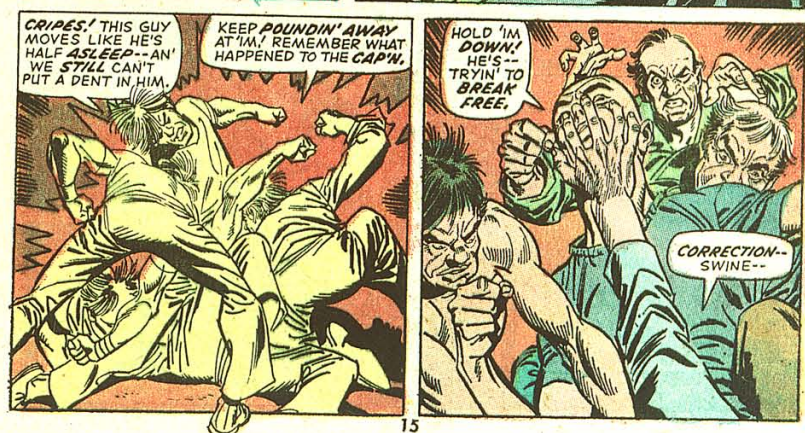
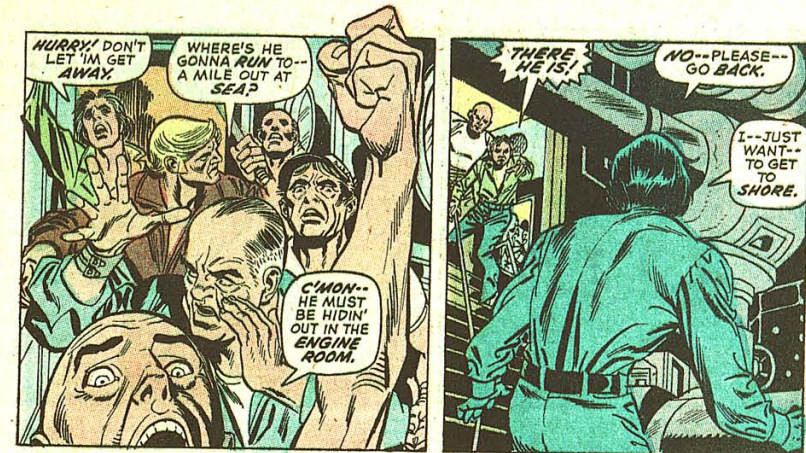
AND, SOMETHING TELLS ME IF I'M NOT OUT OF TOWN BY SUN-UP...

THIS IS ONE DAWN THAT'S REALLY GONNA COME UP LIKE THUNDER!

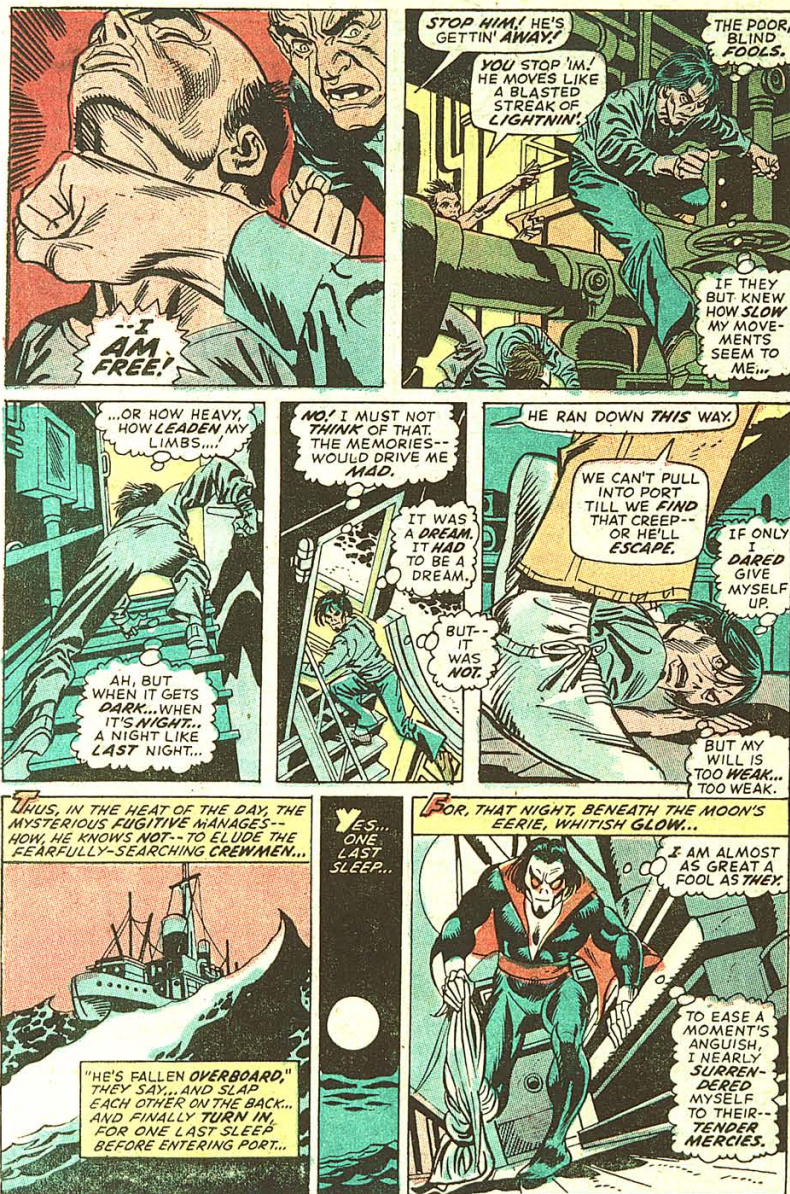
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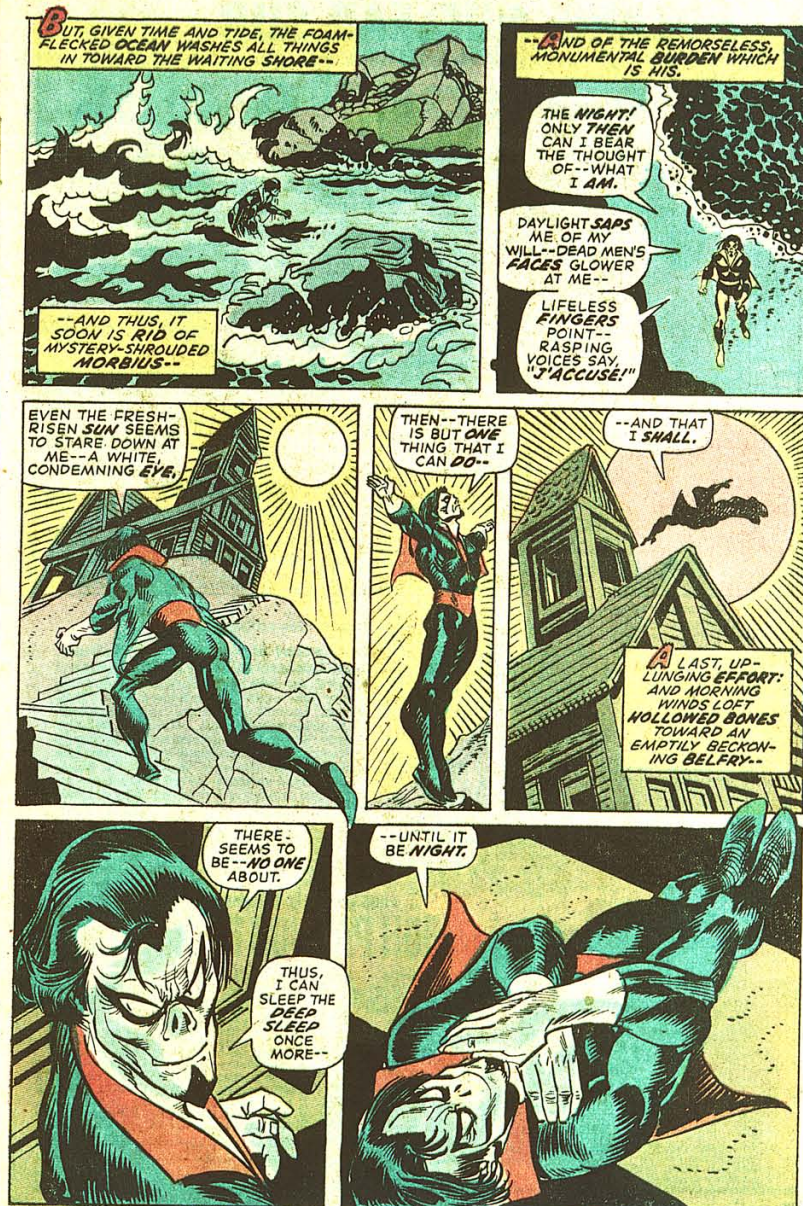
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I'VE BEEN HERE TWO DAYS--AND I'VE ACCOMPLISHED EXACTLY NOTHING.

UNLESS YOU GET CREDIT FOR WASTING A VATFUL OF EXPENSIVE CHEMICALS.

DOC CONNORS WON'T MIND. HE'S A GREAT GUY.

WISH I COULD GIVE HIM ONE OF THESE ARMS --TO REPLACE THE ONE HE LOST.

COOL IT, SPIDEY--NO TIME FOR PIPE-DREAMS. GOTTA KEEP TRUCKIN'.

MAYBE THIS BATCH WILL BE THE ONE.

IF IT IS, MY THEORY SAYS IT SHOULD TURN BLUE--

NO! THIS ONE'S AS USELESS AS THE OTHERS.

MAYBE--MAYBE I'M DOOMED TO STAY THIS WAY--

--FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!

OH, AND WE NEGLECTED TO TELL YOU--THE FOREGOING TABLEAU OCCURS TOWARD THE END OF THAT SECOND FRUITLESS DAY--

--JUST BEFORE SUNSET, TO BE EXACT.

WHAT MANNER OF PLACE IS THIS, THAT MAN HAS SIX ARMS.

YET--HIS COSTUME--SO FAMILIAR, AS IF I HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE.

I--CANNOT REMEMBER. YET IT DOESN'T MATTER--

NOTHING MATTERS--

--EXCEPT THE RAVENING THIRST OF MORBIUS.

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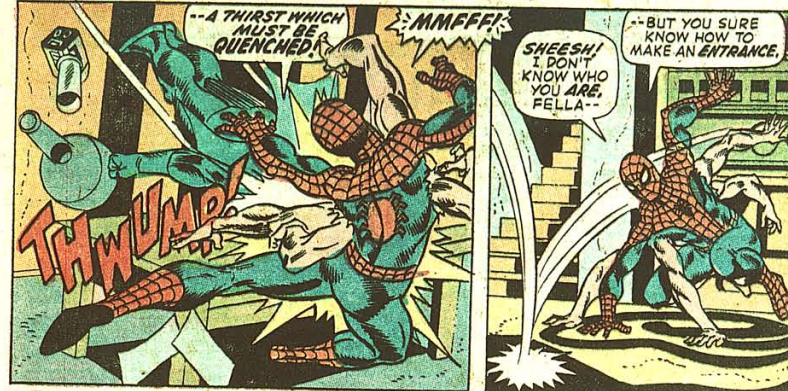
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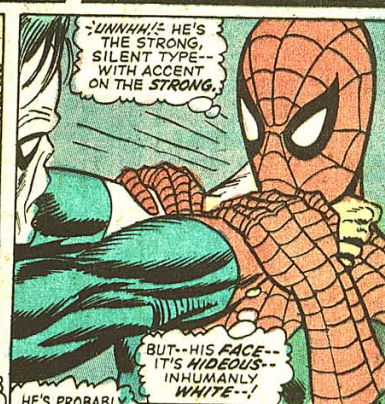
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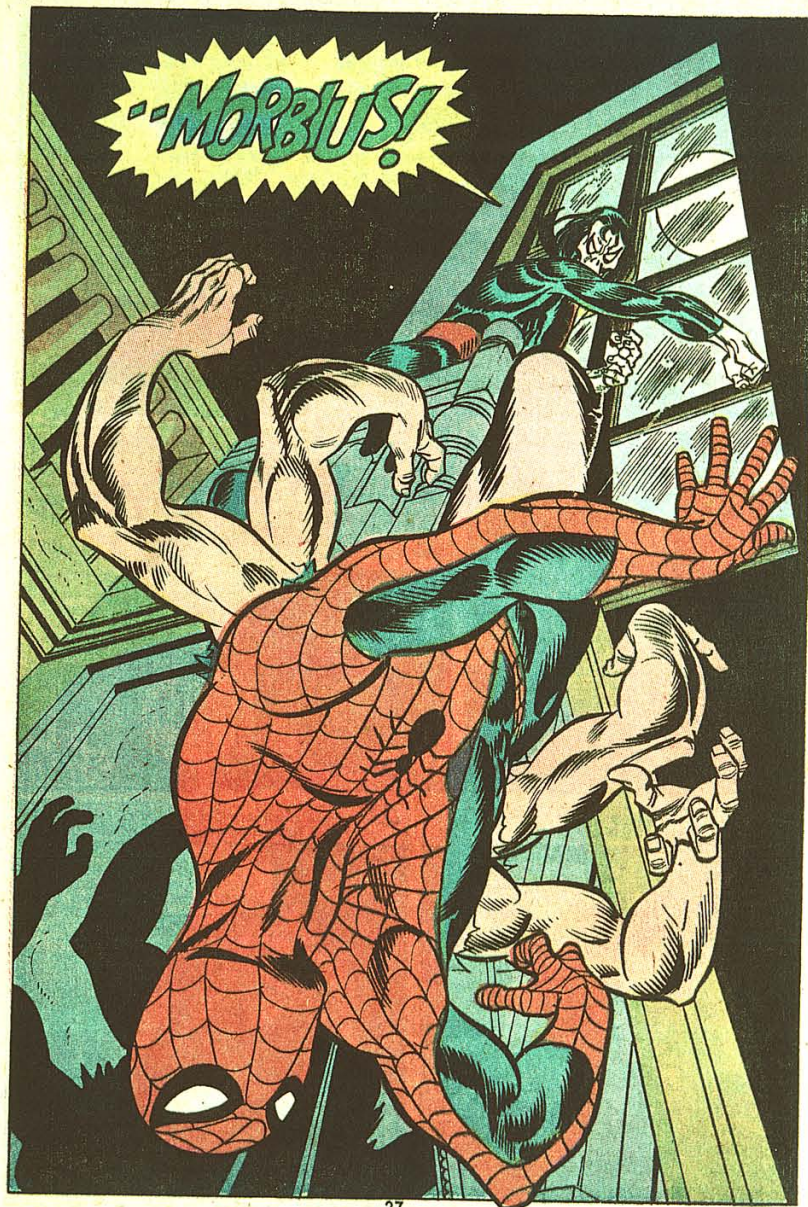
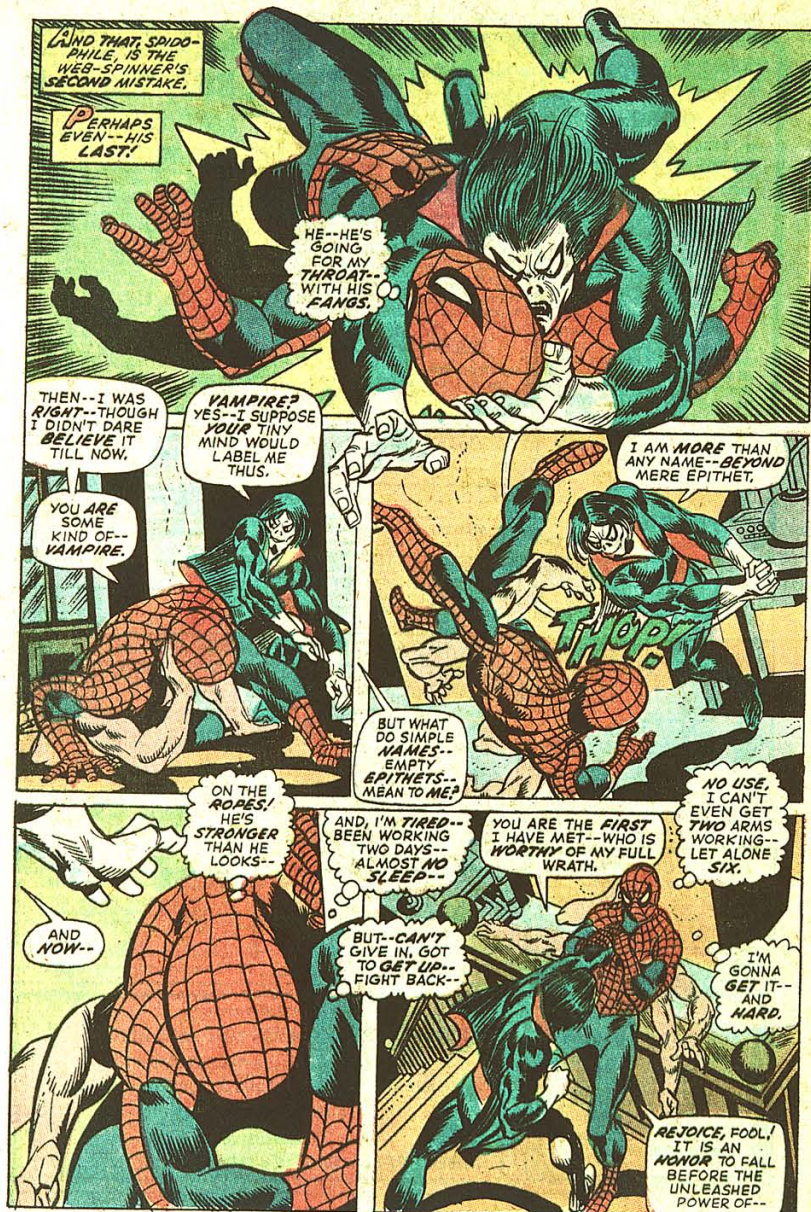
THEN, PETER PARKER MAKES HIS FIRST MISTAKE--WAITS A FATEFUL INSTANT FOR SOME SORT OF ANSWER--SOME VERBAL RESPONSE--

--WHILE, INSTEAD-- MORBIDLY LEAPS!



--OUT TO BUILD A FAST REP BY BEATING UP ON SPIDER-MAN.

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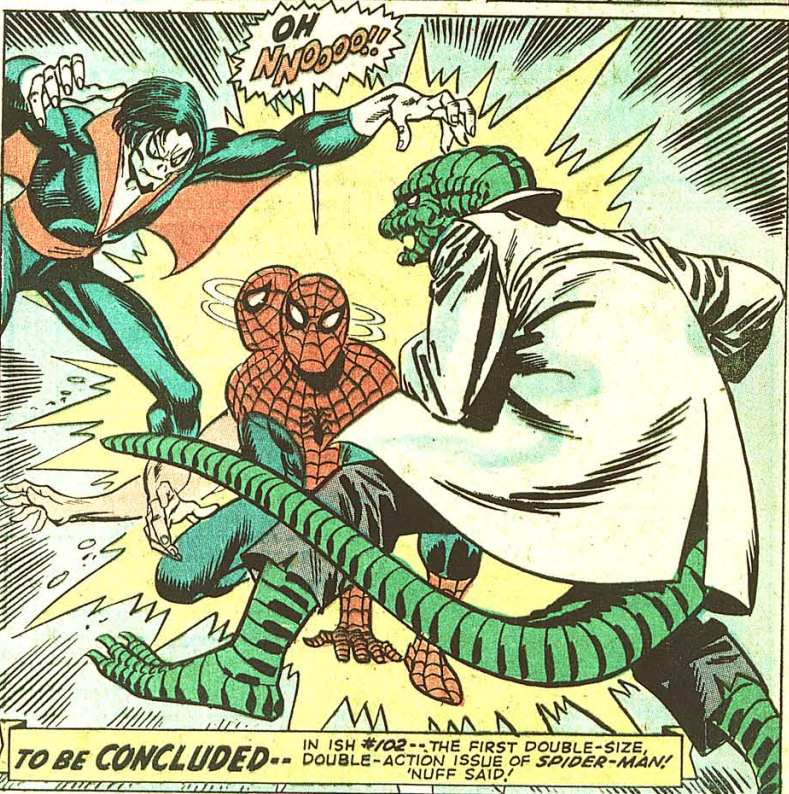
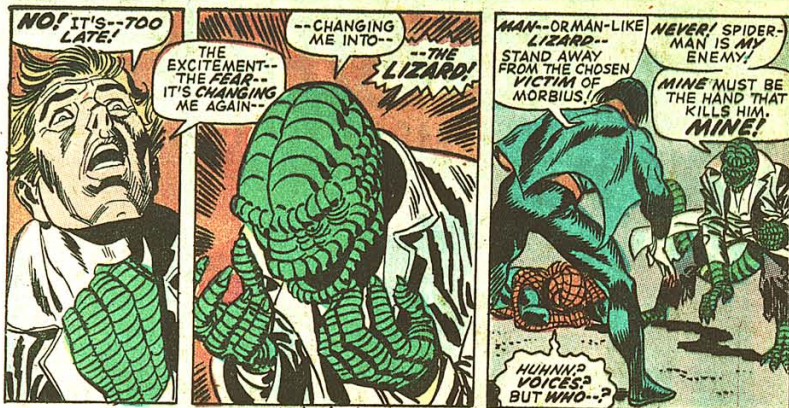
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THE SPIDERS' WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan,

I knew something was different with SPIDER-MAN #96, and then I suddenly saw on issue #97 the lack of the Comics Code stamp of approval. My first impression was that you had left it off, but you would leave off the cover before you would normally leave off the stamp. Then I went through a couple of fanzines checking for the entire listing of the comics code, and checked down the list, and then I saw it, the plot on drugs. The portrayal of Harry Osborn as a pill-popper! And in issue #96, the death of the young black American by a drug overdose! In neither issue were drugs described as a desirable things. So, my congratulations on defiance of the comics code, but, more important doing something that will cut a little out of your pocketbooks, but will also help in the improvement of mankind. You are showing the mettle of the man that took a chance in 1961, a chance that changed the course of the superhero comic book. And this latest achievement proves you still have it. Roy Thomas stated that he felt the campaign to revise the code was unnecessary, but when something like this is stopped, then I think something should be done. Actually, I think, in the long run, you really were not hurt, because you showed what a good 60% of our high school and college students are doing.

I must admit my faith in your sincerity was diminished when the Silver Surfer was stopped. I can remember when about three years ago I was inflicted with comic fever, or more appropriately Marvel Comics Fever. I pounced on every issue of Silver Surfer because I liked the mild amounts of dissent philosophy he was always stating, and actually I think he was pretty fundamental in developing my changing thoughts, as I can remember when I would sit and think a long time about what he had stated. And what that means is, that you can use comic books as a very constructive educational program. I feel comics could outdo teachers 100 to 1. Because a teacher has to sit up and say "there has been no proof grass can hurt you," "downers and uppers won't hurt you if you do not take them in excess," and then he says, "but you still shouldn't take them, because an overdose is highly dangerous," the student thinks "I will never take an overdose." But comics can very vividly show just what an overdose is, just what a downer freak is. Comics have a great influence on kids, if you use them. So, keep it up, Stan, you were first in bringing a partial reality to comics. Be the first in using this partial reality for the betterment of mankind. After all, there should be more to life than making a buck off of something that could change ideas and formulate thinking in the start of each and every generation. You have a soapbox with hundreds of thousands of eager listeners, Stan. Use it. People ask how they can help stop drug abuse, pollution, and war. Well in your hands is something that can help more than, probably, any other thing. It's okay to make money with it, but like I said before, there is more to life than making a buck. Use yours to help the betterment of us all. Thanks.

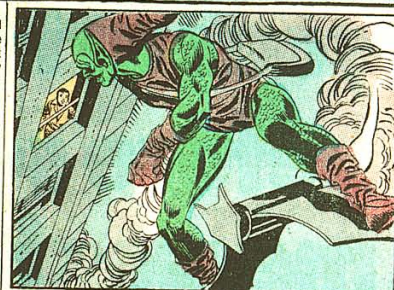
Ron Sorrells,
Medford, Oregon

We'll try, Ron! And readers like you spurring us on makes our task a lot easier and considerably more gratifying. Right on!

Dear Stan and Co:

From time to time (and that is most of the time) you have really gotten everyone's favorite webslinger into quite a fix. But this current dilemma is by far the worst of all possible dilemmas.

A few months ago he indirectly causes the death of George Stacy, who just happens to be the father of Gwen, the girl he loves. And we all know how much trouble that caused. But issue #96 really takes the cake.



It begins naturally enough with Peter reviewing the disastrous trip to London. All that trip accomplished was to further the rift between Gwen and Peter and to arouse Joe Robertson's suspicions.

Okay—you did manage to get started in the right direction. Peter actually attended classes, and for once he decided to take a reliable job. All seemed well until you really dropped the big one on us. Ole Green Goblin himself returns. Now I ask you, with all his other problems, did Spider-Man really need this one? Of course not; but that has never stopped Marvel, yet. Well, now that you have brought back the Green Goblin, what are you going to do with him?

The last time Green Goblin appeared, the battle royal between him and Spider-Man ended with a case of amnesia. You can't pull that trick twice. Also you just can't have Spider-Man kill him; after all, he is his own roommate's father. I can see it all now; Norman Osborn's death as the Green Goblin causes a rift between Peter and Harry. Nor can you have the Green Goblin escape to fight another day. His absence as Norman Osborn would cause too much of a hullabaloo. And the wrong people would become suspicious.

So you really have boxed Spider-Man in now. The Green Goblin knows his secret identity. And since he knows that he really is Norman Osborn, how can Spider-Man help but pull his punches? This could get dangerous; especially if the foe is the Green Goblin.

All I can say is that I hope you have left Spidey a way out. I'd hate to have to face each month without him.

Shirley Gorman, Grande E, Box 14

Hereford, Texas 79045
You won't have to, Shirley, baby—at least not until that far-off day when Aunt May finds the fountain of youth, drinking from which turns her into the partner of one of our old favorite heroes, Ant-Man (Would 'ja believe Aunt-Lady? Ouch!). And as for our favorite neighborhood wall-crawler's problems with the Green Goblin, you know by now that they've been solved. (To your swingin' satisfaction, we hope.) But if you think the double-G gave Spidey a pain, wait'll you see what's waiting for him in the months ahead. We don't want to give away any surprises, but we think we can say with all honesty that they'll make his past trials and tribulations seem as simple as Woody Allen describing his new movie, "Bananas." (Okay, Mr. A., there's your free plug. Now how about giving us your insidetips on how to become a sex-symbol like yourself?!)



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objective test that measures your basic drawing ability. Your sense of color. Design. Imagination. (It shows how good an artist you could be. Not how good you happen to be right now.)

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Your instructor doesn't knock your doodles. He helps you build on them, and free your pencils, pens, paints, charcoal sticks, and pastels to say exactly what you want them to.

He encourages you to get as much imagination as possible into your flower pots and bathing beauties.

And he won't let you get away with so-so work when you could be doing better.

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Microprojector shows microscopic subjects enlarged with brilliant detail on wall or screen. This handy Steel Cabinet, large Condensing Lens for extra brightness, and a 60 Footcandle Lamp. Microscope features. Rotates for power for wide field viewing. Substage Light and Polarizing Filter. Magnifies up to 200X. Includes Slides, Cover Glasses and Microscopy Manual.

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